

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A personal electronic starter and timer comprising:  
a finish line unit for generating an end of race signal across a finish line of a race of a predetermined distance; and  
a body unit coupled to a body of a person for generating a countdown signal and starting a timing function after a start signal, the timing function terminating when the body unit reads the end of race signal generated by the finish line unit.

2. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the finish line unit comprises:  
a microcontroller unit;  
an emitter coupled to the microcontroller for sending out the end of race signal; and  
a power supply coupled to the microcontroller.

3. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 2 wherein the finish line unit further comprises an indicator signal coupled to the microcontroller for showing when the finish line unit is activated.

4. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 2 wherein the finish line unit further comprises a switch coupled to the microcontroller for activating and deactivating the finish line unit.

5. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 2 wherein the finish line unit further comprises a housing to protect internal components of the finish line unit.

6. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the body unit stores multiple users, multiple race distances and fastest times for each user.

7. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the body unit comprises:

- a microcontroller;
- a display unit coupled to the microcontroller;
- a receiver device coupled to the microcontroller for receiving the end of race signal; and
- a power supply coupled to the microcontroller.

8. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 7 wherein the body unit further comprises a speaker coupled to the microcontroller to provide audible signals.

9. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 7 wherein the body unit further comprises a plurality of buttons to activate and deactivate the body unit and to scroll through menu features of the body unit.

10. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 7 wherein the body unit further comprises a housing to protect internal components of the body unit.

11. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the end of race signal is an infrared signal.

12. A personal electronic starter and timer comprising:  
a finish line unit for generating an end of race infrared signal across a finish line of a race of a predetermined distance;  
and

a body unit coupled to a body of a person for generating a countdown signal and starting a timing function after a start signal is sounded, the timing function terminating when the body unit receives the end of race infrared signal generated by the finish line unit, the body unit storing multiple users, multiple race distances and fastest times for each user and each distance.

13. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 11 wherein the finish line unit comprises:

a first microcontroller unit;

an emitter coupled to the first microcontroller for sending out the end of race signal;

an indicator signal coupled to the first microcontroller for showing when the finish line unit is activated; and

a power supply coupled to the first microcontroller.

14. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 13 wherein the finish line unit further comprises a switch coupled to the microcontroller for activating and deactivating the finish line unit.

15. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 13 wherein the finish line unit further comprises a housing to protect internal components of the finish line unit.

16. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 12 wherein the body unit comprises:

- a second microcontroller;
- a display unit coupled to the second microcontroller;
- a receiver device coupled to the second microcontroller for receiving the end of race signal; and
- a power supply coupled to the second microcontroller.

17. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 16 wherein the body unit further comprises a speaker coupled to the second microcontroller to provide audible signals.

18. A personal electronic starter and timer in accordance with Claim 16 wherein the body unit further comprises a plurality of buttons coupled to the second microcontroller to activate and deactivate the body unit and to scroll through menu features of the body unit.